

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a natural language, mixed-initiative system, a method of processing user dialogue comprising the steps of:

receiving user inputs at a main menu detector, the main menu detector determining whether the user input specifies an action to be performed or a token of information for an action, wherein user inputs specifying context dependent data are routed to the main menu detector by a classifier configured to distinguish user inputs specifying context dependent data from user inputs specifying context independent data, and wherein the classifier routes user inputs specifying context independent data to an action interpreter;

for a user input determined by the main menu detector to be an action, routing the user input to [[an]] the action interpreter; and

for a user input determined to be a token, routing the user input to an action router that routes the user input to one of a plurality of token interpreters that is determined by the action router to be suited for interpreting the user input.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

classifying a token determined from the user input if the user input is determined to be a token; and

routing the token to one of a plurality of token interpreters according to said classifying step.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the classifying step identifies the token according to an action identified by the system, an action corresponding to a current state of a system, a category of the user input, a particular domain, or sub-domain.

4. (Currently Amended) In a natural language, mixed-initiative system, a method of processing user dialogue comprising the steps of:

receiving at a main menu detector a first user input specifying an action, wherein user inputs specifying context dependent data are routed to the main menu detector by a classifier configured to distinguish user inputs specifying context dependent data from user inputs specifying context independent data, and wherein the classifier routes user inputs specifying context independent data to an action interpreter;

routing said first user input to an action interpreter configured to determine an action from received user input and to provide the action to an action router;

receiving a second user input;

determining whether the second user input specifies an action or a token corresponding to an action; and

providing the second user input to the processor configured to determine an action or to a processor configured to determine a token from received user input according to said determining step.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of performing the action specified by the first user input.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of determining that the second user input specifies a second action to be performed.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of, after said step of providing the first user input to a processor, determining that a token is required to perform the action specified by the first user input and querying the user for the token.

8. (Currently Amended) A natural language, mixed-initiative system comprising:

a main menu detector for receiving a user input, said main menu detector configured to distinguish a user input specifying a requested action from a user input specifying a token for performing an action, wherein if the user input specifies a requested action, said main menu detector routes the user input to an action interpreter, and wherein if the user input specifies a token, said main menu detector routes the user input to an action router;

a classifier configured to distinguish user inputs specifying context independent data from user inputs specifying context independent data, wherein said classifier routes user inputs specifying context dependent data to said main menu detector and user inputs specifying context independent data to an action interpreter;

an action interpreter configured to determine an action from the user input;

an action router to configured to rout the user input to one of a plurality of token interpreters determined by the action router to be suited for interpreting the user input if the user input specifies a token; and

at least one token interpreter configured to determine a token from a user input to be used in performing an action.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said action interpreter further determines a token from the user input provided to said action interpreter.

10. (Original) A natural language, mixed-initiative system comprising:

an action interpreter configured to determine actions from user inputs;
a plurality of token interpreters configured to determine tokens from user inputs to be used in performing an action;
an action router configured to receive actions and tokens and selectively route actions and tokens to one of said plurality of token interpreters;
a main menu detector configured to process context dependent data to distinguish user inputs specifying requested actions from user inputs specifying tokens for performing actions, wherein said main menu detector routes user inputs specifying actions to said action interpreter and user inputs specifying tokens to said action router;
and
a classifier configured to distinguish user inputs specifying context dependent data from user inputs specifying context independent data, wherein said classifier routes user inputs specifying context dependent data to said main menu detector and user inputs specifying context independent data to said action interpreter;
wherein said action interpreter forwards actions to said action router.

11.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for implementing a natural language, mixed-initiative system, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving user inputs at a main menu detector, the main menu detector determining whether the user input specifies an action to be performed or a token of information for an action, wherein user inputs specifying context dependent data are routed to the main menu detector by a classifier configured to distinguish user inputs specifying context

dependent data from user inputs specifying context independent data, and wherein the classifier routes user inputs specifying context independent data to an action interpreter;

for a user input determined by the main menu detector to be an action, routing the user input to [[an]] the action interpreter; and;

for a user input determined to be a token, routing the user input to an action router that routes the user input to one of a plurality of token interpreters that is determined by the action router to be suited for interpreting the user input.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine readable storage of claim 15, further comprising:

classifying a token determined from the user input if the user input is determined to be a token; and

routing the token to one of a plurality of token interpreters according to said classifying step.

17. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 16, wherein the classifying step identifies the token according to an action identified by the system, an action corresponding to a current state of a system, a category of the user input, a particular domain, or sub-domain.

18. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for implementing a natural language, mixed-initiative system, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving at a main menu detector a first user input specifying an action, wherein user inputs specifying context dependent data are routed to the main menu detector by a

classifier configured to distinguish user inputs specifying context dependent data from user inputs specifying context independent data, and wherein the classifier routes user inputs specifying context independent data to an action interpreter;

routing said first user input to an action interpreter configured to determine an action from received user input and to provide the action to an action router;

receiving a second user input;

determining whether the second user input specifies an action or a token corresponding to an action; and

providing the second user input to the processor configured to determine an action or to a processor configured to determine a token from received user input according to said determining step.

19. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 18, further causing the machine to perform the step of performing the action specified by the first user input.

20. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 18, further causing the machine to perform the step of determining that the second user input specifies a second action to be performed.

21. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 18, further causing the machine to perform the step of, after said step of providing the first user input to a processor, determining that a token is required to perform the action specified by the first user input and querying the user for the token.